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Meetings with U. S. Member, Commission on Cartography, FAIGH

In accordance with our discussions of January 20, I met yesterday with Dr. Robert Randall, U. S. Member, Commission on Cartography, FAIGH, presented a point of view with respect to basic principles in the Institute and the Commission on Cartography, and expressed certain program concepts which I have previously presented to the Advisory Committee. It was my intention to present a number of new or re-emphasized program suggestions that would strengthen the overall program, but time was short and the meeting is to be continued at 10:00 AM tomorrow.

For your information the following summarized the thoughts which were presented with respect to the basic principles mentioned above:

1. Every attempt should be made to reduce administrative costs in the Institute and its Commissions. This is fully in accord with resolutions passed in the past, and re-stated in Mexico in 1955.
2. Every effort should be made to broaden the program, and make it more active.
3. The concept of work with Natural Resources programs should be turned over to the Commission on Geography.
4. The entire moving picture program should be financed outside of the limited budget of the Institute, therefore providing funds for additional program activities.
5. There should be less ceremony and routine activity in the Consultations, and more actual work, presentations of papers, and discussions.

A brief review was made of program-broadening suggestions which have previously been expressed. These are as follows:

1. The Commission on Cartography, through the medium of stimulation of member countries, should produce special-subject maps at the scale of 1:5,000,000.

26 JAN 1959

- 2 -

2. More technical publications should be prepared, in Spanish, which deal with subjects of interest to Cartographers. These should be issued as special publications of the Institute.
3. The Chairman, Commission on Cartography, should support, and actively move forward, the Atlas de America program.

For your further information, the following are subjects which I plan to discuss with Mr. Randall tomorrow as new or re-emphasized program suggestions:

1. There has been some discussion of the possible dissolution of the Inter-American Geodetic Survey. Unless this issue has already been decided, it is my feeling that the PAIGH should do all possible to insure the continuation of IAGS, as a constructive force for the United States in Latin America.
2. A Sub-Committee of the Advisory Committee on Cartography should be established to select certain cartographic articles for translation into Spanish, or arrange for the writing of special articles in that language which could be issued as special publications of the Institute.
3. The Commission on Cartography should seriously consider the preparation of a series of base maps of Latin America and Latin American countries for school use at all levels. These maps could result from collaboration among member countries, carry the name of PAIGH, and serve a real need.
4. The Commission on Cartography should cooperate with the Commission on Geography in the production of special-subject maps at the scale of 1:5,000,000. At the recent Vth Consultation on Geography in Quito, a resolution was passed, calling for the preparation of such maps.
5. The Commission on Geography has launched upon a program of exchange of professors and students with various American Universities and Universities in Latin American countries. The Commission on Cartography should seriously consider the advantages to be developed from a similar program. There are many competent government and non-governmental cartographers whose services could be utilized in such a program.

- 3 -

6. The Acting Chairman, Commission on Cartography, should actively encourage the earliest publication of the Atlas de America, and in sufficient copies to be of great use in Latin American countries. At Quito, this month, the interest of school-children in the map exhibition was amazing. Hundreds and thousands of students were brought to the exhibit by their teachers.
7. Support should be given to the Pilot Project in Ecuador. The Commission on Geography is already actively working in the direction of support and collaboration with this effort. A most capable photo-interpretation specialist is in charge of the first phase of this project, and solid aid from the U. S. will go far in the direction of insuring a successful effort in regional study.
8. A bibliography should be produced, listing the major map publishing agencies in each country, and, to the extent that it may be possible, certain important maps. This should be a project of the Special Maps Committee, Commission on Cartography.
9. Consultations should produce more specific tasks for each Committee, including exhibits, presentation of papers and publications. There should not be a major emphasis on the production of resolutions as an end product.
10. There should be a reduction of ceremony at Consultations. Many foreign and U. S. delegates have discussed this problem with me. A certain amount of ceremony is required, but every effort should be made to insure a maximum amount of time for substantive work.

It is my feeling that these are only program recommendations. The Advisory Committee or the U. S. Member, Commission on Cartography may wish to add others, eliminate many of these, or combine some. The major point to be made is that there is a need for a broadening of the program, and it is my firm belief that a cooperative approach to the U. S. program will yield fine results.

cc: Ambassador Droler, RPA

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Dr. Randall, Bureau of the Budget

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